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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/941,899	08/29/2001	Masashi Kon	09792909-5131	7570
26263	7590	04/08/2005	EXAMINER	
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP			FIELDS, COURTNEY D	
P.O. BOX 061080			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER				
CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080			2137	

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/941,899	KON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Courtney D. Fields	2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2001.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-15 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bjorn (U.S. Patent No. 6, 035, 398).

Referring to the rejection of claim 1, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system comprising an entity which forms a link correlating at least two certificates including a public key certificate which stores a public key serving as a cryptographic key and which is generated by a certificate authority in Column 8, lines 9-25 and a person identification certificate which stores a template serving as person identification data and which is generated by a person identification certificate authority, thereby specifying one related certificate based on the other certificate in Column 3, lines 12-35.

Referring to the rejection of claim 2, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein the link between the certificates comprises a link which relates the person identification certificate with the public key certificate of a public key applied to encrypt the template stored in the person identification certificate in Column 8, lines 26-46.

Referring to the rejection of claim 3, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein the link between the certificates comprises a link which relates the person identification certificate with the public key certificate which are both used to establish a connection with a data communication partner in Column 8, lines 47-61.

Referring to the rejection of claim 4, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein one of the public key certificate and the person identification certificate stores, as data, an identifier of a different certificate which is linked thereto in Column 8, lines 62-65.

Referring to the rejection of claim 5, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein one of the public key certificate and the person identification certificate stores, as data, an identifier of a link structure serving as link identification data and identifiers of the linked public key certificate and person identification certificate in Column 8, lines 66-67, Column 9, lines 1-18.

Referring to the rejection of claim 6, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein group information including a group of identifiers of the linked public key certificate and person identification certificate is formed and managed as data separate from the certificates in Column 9, lines 19-29.

Referring to the rejection of claim 7, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein: group information including a group of identifiers of the linked public key certificate and person identification certificate is formed and managed as data separate from the certificates; and a link for specifying,

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based on the group information serving as primary information, secondary information related to the group information is formed in Column 5, lines 18-67, Column 6, lines 1-23.

Referring to the rejection of claim 8, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein one of the public key certificate and the person identification certificate stores a different certificate which is linked thereto in Column 8, lines 9-25.

Referring to the rejection of claim 9, Bjorn discloses a person identification certificate link system according to Claim 1, wherein the certificate authority and the person identification certificate authority are formed as third-party agencies which are not users of the public key certificate and the person identification certificate in Column 9, lines 38-51.

Referring to the rejection of claims 10,12, and 14, Bjorn discloses an information processing apparatus for authenticating a person by comparing a template which is person identification data acquired beforehand with sampling information input by a user, said information processing apparatus comprising an entity which encrypts and stores template information including the template; which obtains the encrypted template from a person identification certificate generated by a person identification certificate authority, which is a third-party agency; which specifies a public key certificate in accordance with link information stored in the person identification certificate; which specifies a cryptographic key to the template based on the

specified public key certificate and which encrypts or decrypts the template in Column 3, lines 37-60, Column 4, lines 21-67, Column 5, lines 1-13.

Referring to the rejection of claims 11,13, and 15, Bjorn discloses an information processing apparatus for authenticating a person by comparing a template which is person identification data acquired beforehand with sampling information input by a user, said information processing apparatus comprising an entity which obtains an encrypted template from a person identification certificate generated by a person identification certificate authority, which is a third-party agency, and which authenticates the person based on the template; and which specifies a public key certificate in accordance with link information stored in the person identification certificate and which performs mutual authentication or encrypted data communication with a data communication partner based on the specified public key certificate in Column 9, lines 38-67, Column 10, lines 1-30.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

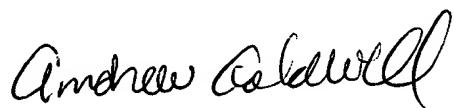
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ACF

cdf

March 31, 2005



ANDREW CALDWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER